

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

/056 W

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R 110804Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2083

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT SK

SUBJ: NDP BATTLES UPHILL TO REBUILD PARTY BEFORE NEXT ASSEMBLY
SESSION

SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH YI CHOL-SUNG AND NDP BANDED TOGETHER TO MAKE
SOLID FRONT BEFORE LAST SEPTEMBER'S ASSEMBLY SESSION,
THREE PROBLEMS STILL REMAIN -- ORGANIZATION, IMAGE AND
FINANCING -- BEFORE PARTY CAN REGAIN SOME MEASURE OF
EFFECTIVENESS. END SUMMARY

1. WITH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN HIBERNATION UNTIL POSSIBLE
SPECIAL SESSION IN APRIL, NDP LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN WORKING
HARD BUT SLOWLY TO STRENGTHEN ITS ORGANIZATION, IMAGE AND
FINANCING. ONE MAJOR HANDICAP TO NDP REGUILDING ITS PARTY'S
COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP SYSTEM; DECISIONS OF SUPRENE COMMITTEE
MUST BE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL FACTORS. THIS SITUATION HAS
BECOME EXACERBATED RECENTLY BY FACT MANY NDP STALWARTS ARE
OCCUPIED ELSEWHERE: KIM YONG-SAM IS OVERSEAS; YI CHOL-
SUNG IS PLANNING LATE FEBRUARY TRIP; PARTY ELDER CHONG IL-HYONG
IS AWAITING SENTENCE IN MYONGDONG CASE; AND OTHERS ARE
TRAVELING OUTSIDE COUNTRY WITH SEPAKER AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

2. ALTHOUGH PARTY HAS BEEN AT IT SINCE LAST SEPTEMBER,

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ASSIGNMENT OF PARTY POSITIONS IS NOT QUITE COMPLETE.
RELATIVELY MINOR DEPUTY CHIEF POSITIONS IN VARIOUS DEPART-
MENTS STILL NEED TO BE FILLED. NDP SECRETARY-GENERAL TOLD
EMBOFF THAT LATTER ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE NEGOTIATED HOPEFULLY
ON FEBRUARY 15, ALMOST SIX MONTHS FOLLOWING YI CHOL-SUNG'S
ELECTION AS CHAIRMAN.

3. REFURBISHING PARTY ESCUTCHEON WILL PROVE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT. YI CHOL-SUNG STILL MUST CONTEND WITH SAKURA IMAGE, DESPITE FACT NDP PROBABLY ACCOMPLISHED MORE AS OPPOSITION PARTY THIS LAST SESSION THAN IT HAS IN PREVIOUS THREE YEARS WHEN IT EMPLOYED LARGELY OBSTRUCTIONIST TACTICS. ONE SOLID YI SUPPORTER TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE CHAIRMAN WOULD BE HELPED IF HE COULD MANAGE TO SAVE CHONG IL-KYONG FROM TOO HARSH A SENTENCE IN MYONGDONG TRIAL. CHONG SWUNG KEY ELECTION FOR CHAIRMAN VOTE TO YI LAST SEPTEMBER, AND IF YI COULD EFFECT RECIPROCAL GESTURE, IT SHOULD HELP HIM. EVEN IF CHONG IS LET OFF, HOWEVER, PRESIDENT PAK, NOT YI, IS LIABLE TO GET ANY REAL CREDIT DUE.

4. YI CHOL-SEUNG HAS TAKEN PARTY'S PERENNIAL FINANCIAL PLIGHT TO PUBLIC RECENTLY. WHILE HE HAS NOT SAID SO OPENLY, IMMEDIATE PROBLEM ARISES FROM EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT DAMMING UP OF MONEY FLOW FROM BUSINESS -- DRP HAS SAME PROBLEM INCIDENTALLY. FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES WILL MOUNT WHEN PRESENT NDP HEADQUARTERS IS DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR WIDENING OF ANGKUKTONG ROAD. NDP ASSEMBLYMENS' 40,000 WON MONTHLY ASSESSMENT IS NOT LIKELY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM. SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL01222
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770049-0649
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770249/aaaabrkh.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 341b6ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3338428
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NDP BATTLES UPHILL TO REBUILD PARTY BEFORE NEXT ASSEMBLY SESSION SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH YI CHOL-SUNG AND NDP BANDED TOGE
TAGS: PINT, SK, NDP, (YI CHOL-SUNG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/341b6ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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